

Date Expected: _____ / _____ / _____

Lesson: The Tower of Babel

Welcome: Begin by welcoming students by name. Talk and take a little time to get to know the kids and ask about their week. You can do a gathering activity if conversation is slow. There are some ideas in your binder. This is when you'll probably take attendance.

The Main Idea: All Glory Belongs to God

The Story: Genesis 11 MSG:

1-2 At one time, the whole Earth spoke the same language. It so happened that as they moved out of the east, they came upon a plain in the land of Shinar and settled down.

3 They said to one another, "Come, let's make bricks and fire them well." They used brick for stone and tar for mortar.

4 Then they said, "Come, let's build ourselves a city and a tower that reaches Heaven. Let's make ourselves famous so we won't be scattered here and there across the Earth."

5 God came down to look over the city and the tower those people had built.

6-9 God took one look and said, "One people, one language; why, this is only a first step. No telling what they'll come up with next—they'll stop at nothing! Come, we'll go down and garble their speech so they won't understand each other." Then God scattered them from there all over the world. And they had to quit building the city. That's how it came to be called Babel, because there God turned their language into "babble." From there God scattered them all over the world.

The Activity:

Supplies: Index Cards, Cups, Straws, Craft Sticks, paper clips

Give students the instruction that beginning now, they cannot talk at all. There will be no talking at all during this activity. They will be given five minutes to build the tallest tower they can, using the supplies provided. They can't touch any supplies until you say "go" and start the timer. Towers are measured from the table to the highest point of the tower, but if they tip over, they are still measured from the table to the highest point remaining.

- Break kids into small groups and give each group the exact same amount and types of building supplies. Say "go" and start a five-minute timer.
- Compare the tower height between teams.
- In the same groups, and using the same materials, do the same challenge, but this time, groups can talk within their group as well. Compare towers again.

The Discussion:

- Was the first tower challenge easier or the second? Why?
- How would you have felt if you were the people trying to build the tower to Heaven?
- What are some of the ways people you know, especially people your age try to make themselves famous?
- Have you ever wished you could be noticed for something? Have you ever tried to get noticed or have attention?
- Why did God change it so that the people building the tower could no longer all understand one another? (They were building the tower for their own glory and to reach Heaven under their own power.)
- The people were trying to reach Heaven on their own. How do people today try to reach Heaven on their own?
- How does the verse 1 Corinthians 10:31 relate to this story? (We should do everything for God's glory, not ours.)
- How does Ephesians 2:8-9 related to this story? (We can't reach Heaven on our own. We need Jesus!)

Other Resources:

- Saddleback Kids Tower of Babel: https://youtu.be/Uvvl1tKqm2g?si=dw_VGJ-x_TrNgLAF
- Cross Roads Kids Tower of Babel: https://youtu.be/CIG5h9P_rqk?si=GbVr8UijC4HvokBm
- My Story, Your Glory Song: <https://youtu.be/GdPstrY0Yns?si=Zc2OfmsUf-98DPUu>

Prayer: Please be sure to spend time in prayer with your class.

Ask kids if they have praise or prayer concerns. Talk to God about what is going on in their lives. Ask God to help them to remember and apply what they are learning and to help them remember that He is with them, always. Thank God for the gift of language and communication. As God to forgive us when we try to make ourselves popular or famous and to help us remember that all of the glory belongs to God, no matter what.

Reminder: **IN YOUR CLASSROOM, THERE ARE TWO POSTERS FOR YOU TO WORK ON ALL YEAR LONG. AS YOU DO EACH LESSON, ADD NOTES TO THOSE PAGES WITH WHAT YOU DISCOVER ABOUT GOD AND WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT YOU.**

